Currier and Ives Images From Christmas In 1900

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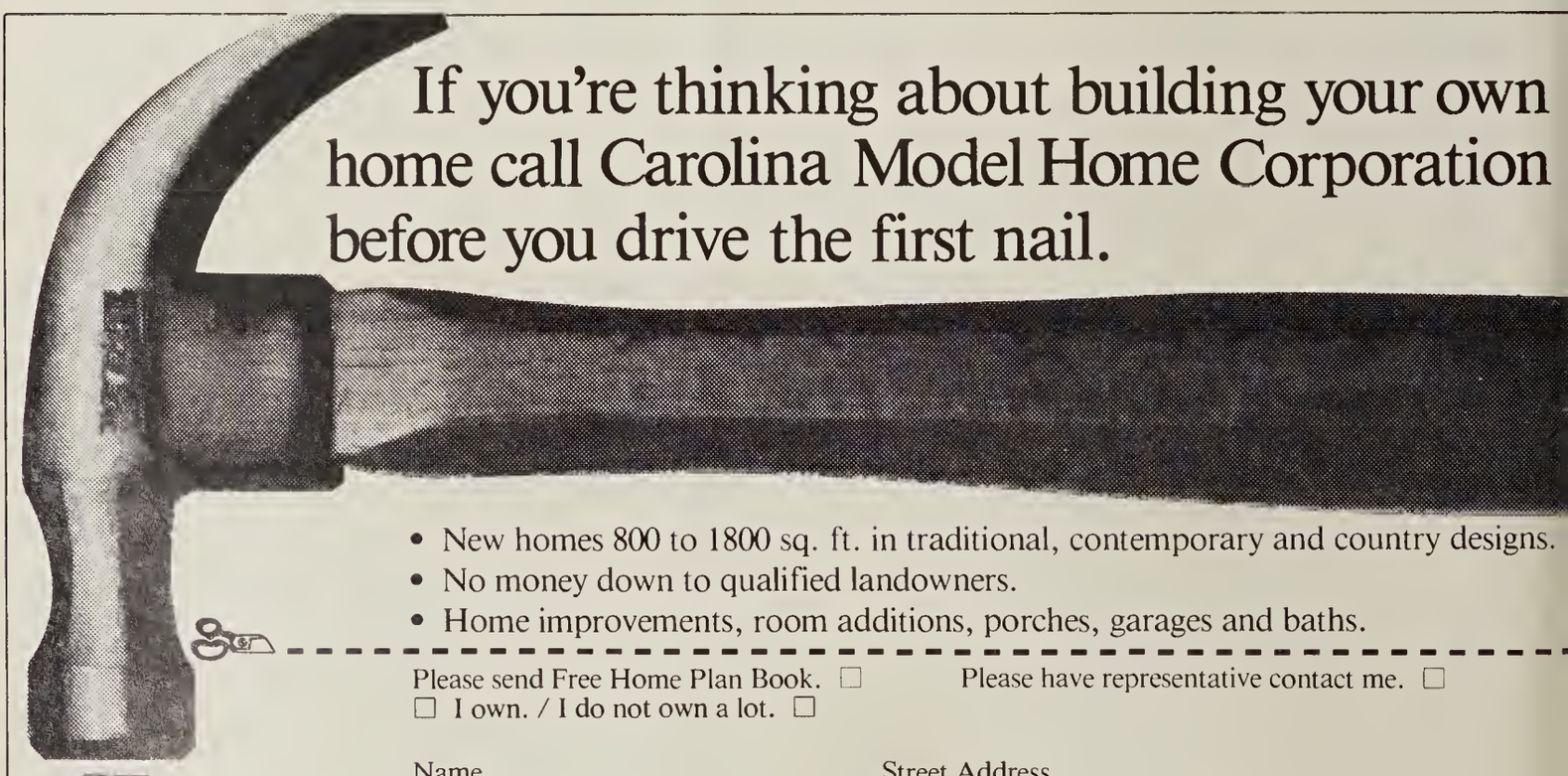

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VIEWPOINT

Deregulation: The Flag-Waving Resumes

Deregulation.

It's not a four-letter word, but many consumers have come to consider it something of an obscenity as they cope with the effects of deregulation on various elements of the American economy.

Whether they're struggling with almost meaningless airline schedules or sorting out who's responsible for what in trouble-shooting a telephone problem, many Americans would gladly return to the pre-deregulation era.

That's why it's especially disturbing to see that federal officials are waving the deregulation flag once again — this time as the salvation of the nation's electric utility industry.

Members of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) are doing a lot of the flag-waving, calling for a competitive bidding process to determine how the nation's electric power should be generated.

FERC is the agency that regulates the sale of power from investor-owned utilities to rural electric cooperatives and municipalities.

Its chairman, Martha Hesse, has called for all potential power suppliers to bid against one another for customers, thus assuring that power generation would be handled by those who can do the job at the lowest price.

That, says Ms. Hesse, would eliminate the need for rate regulation.

In addition, FERC Commissioner Charles Stalon argues that generation is losing — or has lost — its "natural monopoly" characteristics, which inspired the present regulatory system.

To the surprise of no one, some private power companies have quickly climbed aboard this deregulation bandwagon, saying the present regulatory system should be eliminated because it is outmoded and restrictive.

Meanwhile, the deregulation proposal's underlying economic assumptions were questioned by Bob Bergland, executive vice president of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, as he appeared before a recent Congressional subcommittee.

He said the co-ops are "extremely leery of relying on abstract theory in matters concerning the real-world provision of electric power."

Amid all the deregulation hoopla, FERC Commissioner Charles Trabrandt has raised a voice of reason in regard to how the issue should be addressed.

He said the interests of the public are being overlooked by the deregulation advocates, who have put together a promotional campaign to impose "a wholly new and potentially dangerous approach to federal and state regulation."

This, he added, is no way for an issue of this magnitude to be handled — it must be dealt with on Capitol Hill, not in promotional campaigns directed from within a federal agency.

We hope Trabrandt's voice is heard in the halls of Congress. That's the proper forum for debate on any sort of deregulation of the electric utility industry — whether it turns out to be an unexpected blessing or just another economic obscenity.

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Manager Appointed

EMCs Launch Marketing Program

Jim Autry, a native Tar Heel whose career has included public relations posts with two electric cooperatives and a major bank, has been named manager of the newly created Marketing Division of North Carolina's statewide organization of electric co-ops.

The new division is part of the organization's generation and transmission operation, North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation (NCEMC).

Plans call for the division to oversee development of the marketing strategies that will help the state's cooperatives strengthen their overall economic position, according to Jim Hubbard, executive vice president of the statewide organization.

He said Autry will serve as a liaison with local Electric Membership Corporations in designing new marketing programs that are tailored to the specific needs of each co-op.

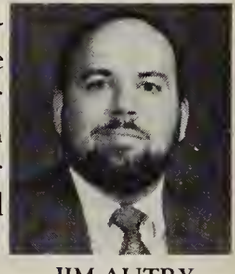
"This is a service the EMCs have needed for some time and it will dovetail with the co-ops' statewide community and economic development program that's been in place for the past five years," Hubbard said.

NCEMC's Economic and Community Development Department, which coordinates efforts to attract new industries into EMC territories, will be part of the Marketing Division. It had previously been under the organization's Public Affairs Division.

As manager of the new division, Autry will carry out policies established by a nine-member Marketing Committee of the NCEMC Board of Directors. (See box for details.)

Autry joins NCEMC after three years as manager of member and public relations for Carroll Electric Membership Corporation in Carrollton, GA.

Earlier, the Lumberton native was a public relations specialist with Southern National Bank, which is headquartered in Lumberton. Before joining the bank, he held a similar position with Lumbee River EMC, Red Springs.



JIM AUTRY

A Pembroke State University graduate, he has a bachelor's degree in communicative arts and also completed requirements for a degree in math.

He is an accredited public relations professional in the North Carolina Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America and a Certified Rural Electric Communicator under a program sponsored by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Autry is married to the former Judy Bruce of Lumberton. They have one daughter.

Co-op Managers, Directors To Set Program's Policies

Managers of four North Carolina Electric Membership Corporations and directors of five others have been appointed to a committee that will chart the course for a new statewide marketing program for Tar Heel electric co-ops.

Members of the committee were drawn from the membership of the Board of Directors of North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation (NCEMC), a power supply cooperative that's part of the statewide EMC organization.

"We believe this is an exceptional group of rural electric leaders who can bring broad experience to the task of setting policies for this new program," said Jim Hubbard, executive vice president of NCEMC.

He said the five co-op directors have influential roles in their communities throughout the state while the four EMC managers have collectively spent more than 90 years in rural electrification.

"The committee's chairman will be Edward E. Brown Jr., manager of Four County EMC, Burgaw, who was previously on the staff of the statewide organization here and in Ohio. His experience in the area of marketing will be most helpful," Hubbard said.

The other managers on the committee are John W. Browning, executive vice president of Haywood EMC, Waynesville; James B. Kinghorn Jr., manager of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, Tarboro and Dorris B. White, manager of Albemarle EMC, Hertford.

The EMC directors on the committee are J. Grant Duncan Jr. of Rt. 1, Indian Trail, secretary-treasurer of the board, Union EMC, Monroe; Carroll Austin of Rt. 2, Aurora, secretary of the board, Tideland EMC, Pantego; John M. Ferrell of Rt. 5, Durham, president of the board, Wake EMC, Wake Forest; Henry E. Jones of Rt. 3, Pittsboro, president of the board, Central EMC and Grady V. Nichols of Mount Airy, treasurer of the board, Surry-Yadkin EMC, Dobson.

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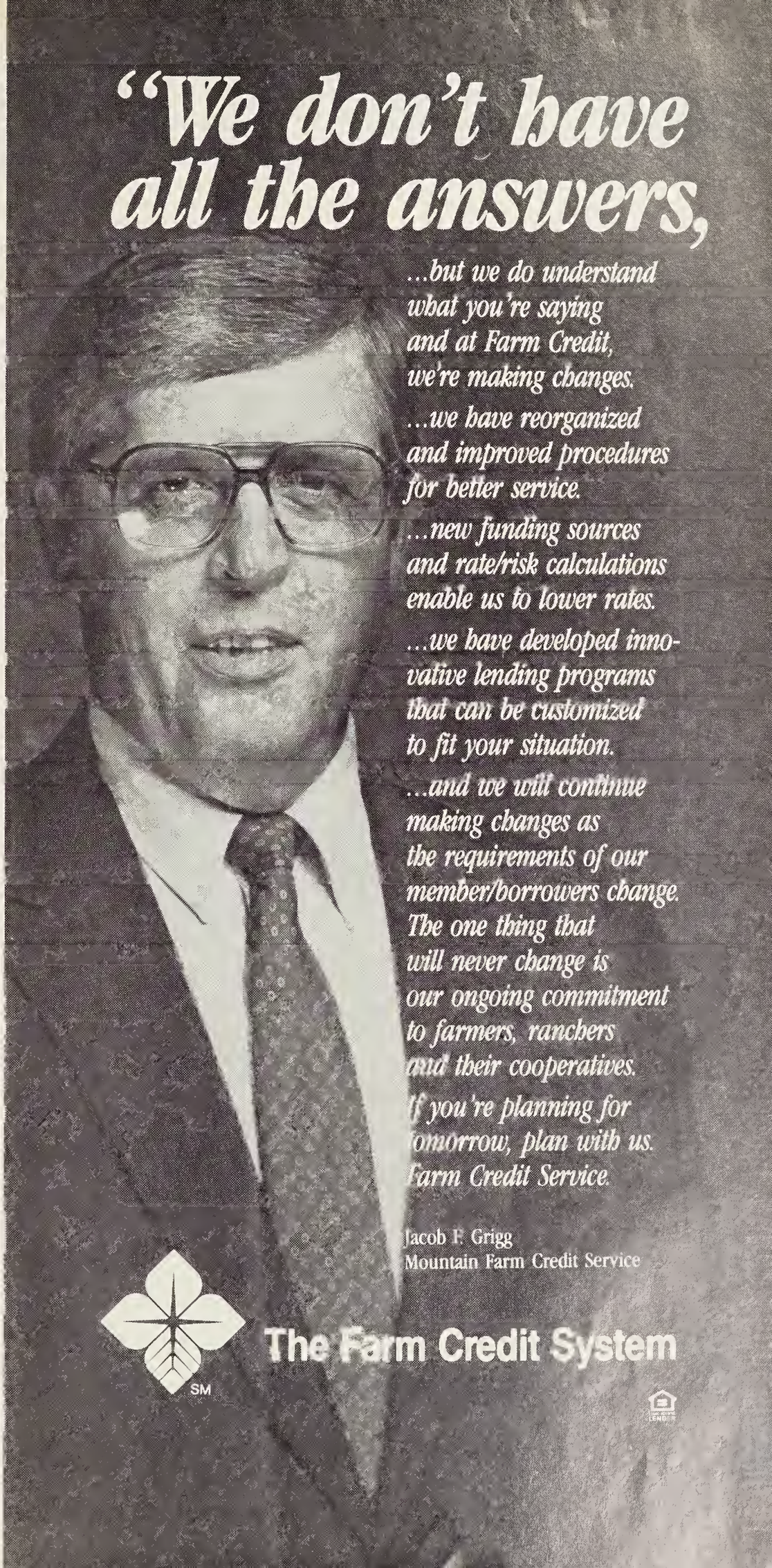
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Blue Ridge EMC Gets REA Loan

Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation, Lenoir, will receive an $8 million loan from the Rural Electrification Administration for an expansion project.

The loan will help finance construction of facilities to serve an additional 3,828 consumers, add 187 miles of distribution lines and seven miles of transmission lines. The project also includes building two new substations and other system improvements.

The EMC serves about 44,000 consumer-members in Ashe, Alleghany, Wilkes, Watauga, Caldwell, Alexander and Avery Counties.

AEC Captures National Energy Innovation Awards

North Carolina's Alternative Energy Corporation (AEC) has received two honors in the National Awards Program for Energy Innovation, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy.

The AEC's project with local energy officers took one of nine Special Recognition Awards. The project involved assisting local governments with the employment of trained, in-house energy managers.

The energy agency also took one of the 81 National Awards for Energy Innovation with its use of fluorescent lighting in the poultry industry—a project that resulted in significant savings through the use of energy-efficient lighting and time-of-use rates.

A non-profit corporation, the NCAEC was established by the State Utilities Commission and the state's electric utilities to promote efficient energy consumption and production.

Home Folks

Richard F. Wilson, a professor at N.C. State University, has been honored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture for his research into the genetics of soybeans. The plant physiologist, who is a USDA researcher, received the federal agency's Distinguished Scientist of the Year award. The award includes $5,000 in cash and another $40,000 in research funds..... **Sarah Shoffner,** assistant to the dean for external relations at UNC-Greensboro, has received the N.C. Home Economics Association's highest honor, the Home Economist Award..... **Judy Brown** of Kelford, **Lewis R. Cheek** of Chapel Hill, **Lemuel Goode** of Raleigh and **Howard Stamey** of Statesville have been inducted into the N.C. State Fair Livestock Hall of Fame..... **Elaine M. Eckel,** chairman of the physical therapy assistant program at Fayetteville Technical Institute, has received the 1987 Olive V. Worthman Service Award from the N.C. Physical Therapy Association, Inc..... **Ray Forrest,** an assistant commissioner of the N.C. Department of Agriculture, has been cited for outstanding leadership in administration from the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture..... **James R. Cummings,** an employee of the Division of Soil and Water Conservation in the N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, has received an Outstanding Service Award from the state agency in recognition of his work in involving farmers in the Agriculture Cost-Share Program..... **Lynn Jett Minick** has been named Citizen of the Year by the N.C. Association of Criminal Justice Educators. Minick is the founder and president of People Assisting Victims, based in Fayetteville..... **Michael Cutts** of Oxford has been named first runner-up in the 1987 World Tobacco Auctioneering Championship sponsored by R.J. Reynolds Tobacco USA. The championship title went to 24-year-old **John M. Keesler** of Campbellsville, KY, the youngest auctioneer to win the competition..... **Paul Ekman** of Lenoir has won the top prize in the Toastmasters International District 37 Humorist Speech Contest. The event involved contestants from throughout North Carolina. Ekman is manager of planning and construction at Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation, Lenoir..... **Jim Bahen,** a Sea Grant Marine Advisory Service agent, has been awarded the 1986-87 Outstanding Extension Service Award from NCSU for his work with commercial fishermen along the southeastern coast of North Carolina..... State **Sen. Robert D. Warren** of Johnston County has been awarded the "True Friend of Education" Award by the N.C. School Boards Association for his leadership on education issues in the General Assembly.

North Carolina Public TV Shows Win National Honors

The University of North Carolina Center for Public Television received two of the 28 local programming awards presented recently by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB).

North Carolina Public Television, the statewide public television service, was one of only three Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) entities to receive dual honors in the annual CPB Public Television Local Program Awards. The awards are the highest recognition by the public broadcasting industry of outstanding public television programs for a local or regional audience.

N.C. Public Television received top honors in the Children's Programming category for "Underwater Kids," a co-production with the N.C. Department of Public Instruction. The state network also received an honorable mention in the performance category for a production of the N.C. School of the Arts performance of the dance concert, "Carmina Burana."

The first place award for "Underwater Kids" was the only prize given out in the Children's Programming category. It was one of nine top awards presented. The director/writer

on the project was Bill Lovin.

"Underwater Kids" told the story of seven North Carolina students from a rural classroom who learned to scuba dive as part of a science class project and were able to practice their new skills on real coral reefs in Florida.

William Hannah was the producer/director for "Carmina Burana," the first of N.C. Public Television's ongoing project with the School of the Arts in Winston-Salem.

State Agency Establishes Health Insurance Hotline

A toll-free telephone information service to aid senior citizens with insurance problems has been established by the North Carolina Department of Insurance.

The service is operated by the agency's Senior Health Insurance Information Program (SHIIP), which was established in 1986 to train volunteers to help retired people with insurance problems.

The telephone service operates Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The number is: 800-443-9354.

Four EMCs Elect Ten Directors

A total of 10 incumbents and four newcomers were elected to the Boards of Directors of four North Carolina Electric Membership Corporations during recent co-op annual meetings:

- **Lumbee River EMC,** Red Springs—Re-elected were Bradford Oxendine of Rt. 4, Lumberton and Harold Dean Brewer of Rt. 1, Red Springs. Newly elected were Conrad Oxendine of Rt. 2, Maxton and Herbert Clark of Rt. 3, Laurinburg.
- **Pitt & Greene EMC,** Farmville—Re-elected were Lloyd Gay of Rt. 1, Fountain and Anna Belle Morris of Rt. 4, Snow Hill. Elected to the board for the first time was John R. Pridgen of Rt. 2, Snow Hill. Pridgen had been appointed to the board earlier, filling the unexpired term of Horace Moore, who retired after serving as a director for 19 years.
- **Rutherford EMC,** Forest City—Re-elected were David W. McGimsey of Rt. 7, Morganton; Harold R. Oates of Rt. 1, Gastonia; Roy D. Wilkins of Rt. 2, Columbus and J.T. Wyant of Rt. 1, Vale.
- **Tri-County EMC,** Dudley—Re-elected were C.C. Ivey Jr. of Rt. 2, Mount Olive and James N. Price of Rt. 5, Mount Olive. Newly elected was Carl Kornegay Jr. of Albertson.

Art Museum Video Tour Now Available

A video "tour" of the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh is now available for use by interested organizations on request.

The video, "North Carolina Museum of Art: It's Alive!" follows an 11-year-old girl on a series of adventures through the museum. Director Richard Schneiderman and museum staff members are also shown discussing their work.

A free public screening of the program will be offered at the museum on Jan. 31, with showings set for each half hour from 1 to 4:30 p.m.

No fee is charged to organizations wishing to view the video. For more information on the video, contact the museum at 2110 Blue Ridge Blvd., Raleigh, NC 27607. Phone: (919) 833-1935.

Continued on page 8

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Continued from page 7

Trail of Tears Proposed As National Historic Route

Part of southwestern North Carolina would be designated as a National Historic Trail under a proposal prepared by the U.S. Department of Interior.

The Trail of Tears, an 1,800-mile route weaving through nine states, covers the route Cherokee Indians took during the 1830s as they were being transplanted to Oklahoma.

More than 15,000 Cherokees began the trek to Oklahoma from various starting points but almost 4,000 died along the way.

The route will not be developed for hiking but will be marked with signs to show the overland routes followed by the Cherokees. Other states included in the historic trail designation are: Georgia, Tennessee, Alabama, Kentucky, Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma.

An act of Congress is needed for the route to become a National Historic Trail. Currently, seven trails in the nation have that distinction.

To learn more about the Trail of Tears and its effort to become a National Historic Trail, contact the National Park Service, Planning and Federal Programs Division, 75 Spring St., SW, Atlanta, GA 30303. Phone: (404) 331-5838.

Two Young Farmers Honored At Fair

Audrey P. Barringer of New London and Harvey G. Allison of Peachland were honored as the 1987 Young Female and Young Male Farmer during special ceremonies at the North Carolina State Fair in Raleigh.

The awards, co-sponsored by the N.C. Farm Bureau Federation and the N.C. Department of Agriculture, were presented by Agriculture Commissioner Jim Graham and Bob Jenkins, Farm Bureau president.

Ms. Barringer, production manager of a family corporate farm, countered depressed livestock prices recently by opening her own farm operation. She contracted to maintain breeder duck flocks and duck egg production—and now manages over 7,000 ducks.

Allison, who operates a 115-acre Anson County farm, has been innovative in bringing improved production practices to his turkey and cattle farm.

Allison was instrumental in developing a computer-controlled device to accurately medicate his turkeys' drinking water.

Cover: "Cherished Dreams" By Wilma B. Vincent

Our cover this month marks the holiday season with "Cherished Dreams" by Wilma B. Vincent of Rt. 1, Manchester, TN. The original watercolor was done in 1985 especially for *The Tennessee Magazine*, the official publication of the Tennessee statewide organization of electric cooperatives, which authorized our use of the painting.

Mrs. Vincent, who is a consumer-member of Duck River Electric Cooperative, Shelbyville, TN, has been painting regularly for the past 10 years, working exclusively in watercolor.

"It started as a hobby, but now it's a full time job and my husband works with me on it," Mrs. Vincent said.

For the image, she used a photo of her daughter Kelly at age 8, Kelly's doll and teddy bear, one of the family's chairs and a borrowed quilt that was made in 1893.

"The rest came entirely from my imagination."

Kelly, now 18, is a freshman in college in Manchester.

A signed and numbered limited edition print of "Cherished Dreams" is available from the artist. It features an image size of 20 by 17½ inches.

The prints are priced at $30 each, including tax and shipping charges.

For copies, send a check or money order payable to Wilma B. Vincent, Rt. 1, Box 1573, Manchester, TN 37355.

Recipients Named For North Carolina Awards

A newsman, an educator, a scientist, an artist and an author have received the 24th Annual North Carolina Awards, the state's highest honor.

The winners and the categories in which they were recognized are:

- John T. Caldwell, educator and former chancellor of N.C. State University, for public service.
- Charles Kuralt, the veteran CBS newsman and author who is a Wilmington native. He received a special award for public service.
- Maya Angelou, writer, playwright and a professor of American Studies at Wake Forest University, for literature.
- Robert J. Lefkowitz of Duke University, for science. He has done pioneering work related to scientific observation of the biological chain of events that leads to all drug and hormone action.
- Harvey K. Littleton, who developed new glass art forms that are now considered standard, for fine arts. Littleton maintains a home studio near Spruce Pine's Penland School, where he regularly shares his knowledge of art.

Awards Cite 3 For Efforts On Local Projects

Three North Carolinians have been presented with the 1987 Nancy Susan Reynolds Awards recognizing them for their work to improve conditions in their local communities.

HARRIS

GODWIN

LUTHER

The awards, presented during ceremonies in Charlotte, went to Edna Harris of Harmony, for personal service; John Godwin of Pembroke, for advocacy and Addie Luther of Asheboro, for community change.

Each winner received $25,000 — with $20,000 of each award to go to charities chosen by the award winners.

An Iredell County farmer, Edna Harris has used a crisis hotline to counsel troubled farmers with various problems over the past few years. She organized a haylift during a 1986 drought and lobbied for federal legislation to help farmers facing foreclosure.

When she was turned down for a loan in 1985, she turned to a crisis hotline for advice. After gaining help, she began a hotline and pushed farmers to join lobbying groups to influence Congress on behalf of stronger farm support.

John Godwin, a Lumbee Indian, has battled for better public education and legal alternatives for the poor in Robeson and Scotland Counties as well as uniting citizens together to oppose a hazardous waste site.

Godwin also organized the Concerned Citizens for Better Government of Robeson County, which has pushed for better legal aid to low-income people.

Addie Luther has worked for the past 29 years to improve conditions for blacks and women in Asheboro. She formed a halfway house for women and a medical-care center for poor patients as well as a community center in the Asheboro area.

She and other women successfully pushed to have women elected to local office. Mrs. Luther's husband also became the first black to be elected to Asheboro's city council.

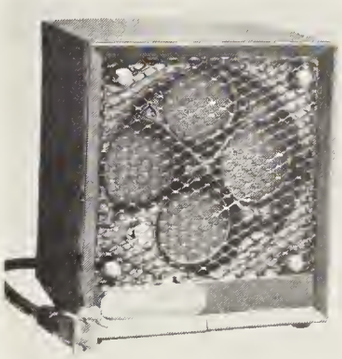
The awards, now in their second year, are sponsored by the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation and are given annually to North Carolinians who have worked without recognitioin to improve conditions in their communities.

Advertisement

High-Tech Furnace Offers Safe and Efficient Heat

The *Heat Machine*, a high-tech home-heating product, offers new benefits in safety, economy and efficiency.

One *Heat Machine* will heat an average living room—9-by-12-by-8 feet—from 50 degrees to 70 degrees in 15 minutes. The *Heat Machine* is smaller than a 6-inch cube and operates on household electrical current.



The *Heat Machine* uses ceramic disks made of barium titanate as the heating component. This material is a semiconductor and heats as an electrical current passes through.

For the *Heat Machine*, the semiconductor is made into a disk shape that is honeycombed so air can flow through. The disk is coated with brass and silver to ensure proper electical contact. A powerful fan pulls air through the heating disk and propels it into the room.

Air passing through the honeycombs contacts a large surface area, so 100 percent of the air intake is heated. The air passes out through the front grill, which deflects it downward, compensating for the upward flow of hot air.

Inherent characteristics of the ceramic heating disk make *Heat Machine* a breakthrough product. The disk draws electricity in order to maintain its temperature at a constant 380 degress. The disk conducts best in a cold environment; it efficiently produces instant heat to be drawn into the room.

As the air in a room warms, the disk requires less electricity to stay at 380 degrees. As the room temperature increases, power consumption decreases.

The *Heat Machine* is safe. It can run day and night, but the cabinet always remains cool to the touch. It was designed for unattended continuous operation.

At 380 degrees, the ceramic disk operates at below the ignition temperature of most household materials. A piece of tissue or a match placed on a *Heat Machine* heating disk will not ignite.

Heat Machine, now manufactured in Canada, runs on solid state circuitry, and the disks have been tested for 50,000 on/off cycles with no apparent wear. Its manufacturer offers a two-year limited warranty and it is U.L. listed.

In a time of energy consciousness, when selective room heating is one means of conservation and when safe, efficient energy sources are a necessity, *Heat Machine* is certainly a timely product.

For information, call 803-736-3335, or write K&W Distributing, Inc., 225 Viewmont Road, Elgin, S.C. 29045.

Co-op Mapping Goes High Tech

A project that was intended simply to use computers for more efficient mapping operations has unexpectedly thrust Carteret-Craven Electric Membership Corporation, Morehead City, into the role of a national trendsetter in the utility industry.

The digitized mapping system, which was developed by the cooperative and an outside consultant, allows the EMC's employees to view maps of its service area on a standard computer screen.

The large, bulky paper maps that once served as the sole guide to the co-op's entire territory are now used only for those areas that haven't yet been incorporated into the computer system.

Plans call for completing the computer mapping of the total area within the next 12 to 18 months, said Jerry Cockrell, the EMC's director of mapping and special projects.

He said the digitized system offers far more information than do the "old fashioned" maps because it is linked to the co-op's engineering and billing computer data.

"That arrangement and the technology we used in building our graphic data base also help us to assure accuracy in a way we never could in the past."

This computer screen image of a map shows a residential neighborhood in Havelock. It's an example of the new digitized mapping that's being done at Carteret-Craven EMC, using a computer system developed by the co-op and a Cary consulting firm.

Another important advantage of the personal computer-based system is that it permits the co-op to produce updated maps on a daily basis, he said.

"Since we're using a high-speed plotter, we can produce a new map showing the latest data available for a given area as soon as the information has been digitized. This means we can regularly furnish updated maps to all our field people.

"We believe this will virtually eliminate the possibility that one of our servicemen might be unable to find a consumer who's in need."

In addition, when service problems arise, co-op employees are in a better position than ever before to identify the source of those problems and immediately respond, Cockrell said.

The "consumer locator" feature of the program allows employees to enter a consumer-member's identification number and immediately have a color monitor image of the map for that member's area, with that specific location highlighted.

With a few additional keystrokes, the computer can instantly call up the current billing data for that individual.

"We can see immediately the status of the account, how much power the member has been using and how much others in his neighborhood have been using.

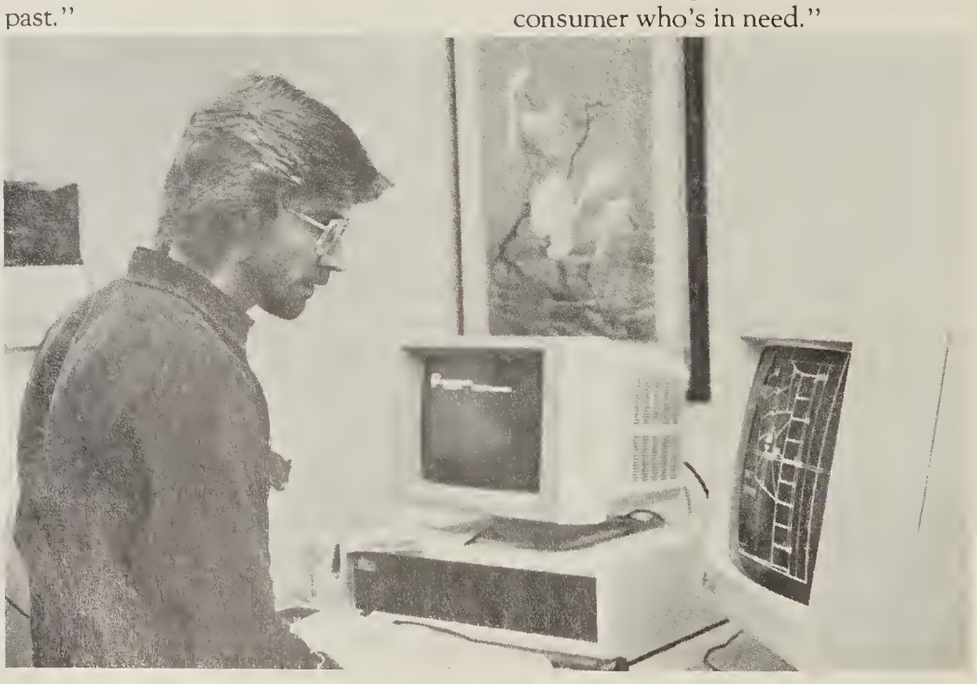
"And all this information is at our fingertips in just a few seconds. That means we can do a better job of analyzing the situation when we're faced with a consumer complaint—and be far faster in responding to it."

Before the digitized mapping system was developed, most of the co-op's mapping was done with pen and paper. Some is still done in that way, but it's only a fraction of what it once was.

Cockrell, who was the driving force behind the shift to the computer system, saw the need for such a system about two years ago. But, despite the advances in computer applications, he could find no other utility in the country with the kind of mapping package he envisioned for Carteret-Craven EMC.

He wanted a flexible system that would save the co-op money over the long-term through improved efficiency, but it needed to be something current employees could conveniently learn to operate.

"We could have used existing technology and had a usable system a few months faster," he said. "But we



Michael Becker plots data on a computer screen as part of the Carteret-Craven EMC digitized mapping operation.

would have had to hire a high-priced programmer to run the system. That's not what we wanted."

To get the kind of system he wanted, he soon realized, Carteret-Craven would have to build it.

The EMC did just that through the partnership with Landmark Engineering of Cary.

"We weren't interested in trying to sell this system once it was developed, but Landmark was. They were very receptive to the idea of helping us with the project."

The system went into operation last April, with co-op employees Adam Sanderson and Michael Becker becoming the principle operators after going through a brief training program.

The start-up proved to be quite smooth, Cockrell said.

One of the major tasks ahead for the co-op is adding the rest of the EMC's territory to the computer mapping system. About half the territory is yet to be covered.

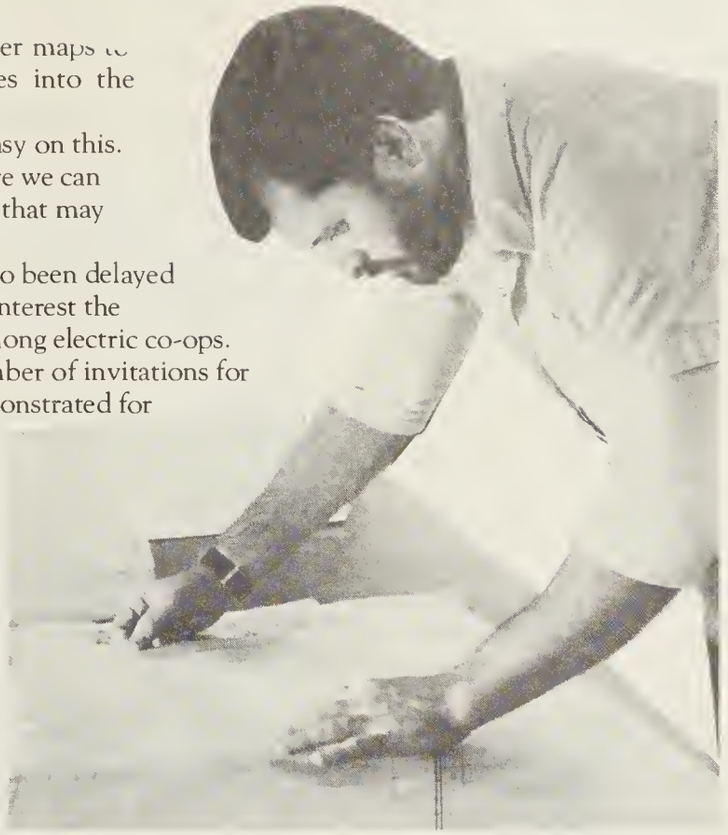
The process involves computer-scanning the old paper maps to transfer those images into the computer program.

"We're taking it easy on this. We want to make sure we can handle any problems that may come up."

The project has also been delayed somewhat by all the interest the system has stirred among electric co-ops. That has led to a number of invitations for the system to be demonstrated for various co-ops and others.

"We're hoping other co-ops around the country will pick up on what we're doing," Cockrell said.

"The technology is now available to help improve a co-op's operations in this area—and to help co-op consumer-members, too."



With the co-op's computer-based mapping system, Adam Sanderson devotes far less time to the "old fashioned" way of mapping.

Story and photos by Contributing Editor Randy Wheeless

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Goodness Grows in North Carolina

In Late December

Co-op Consumers To Be Surveyed

Selected consumer-members of North Carolina Electric Membership Corporations throughout the state will soon be asked to assist the cooperatives in developing forecasts for future power supply needs.

About 20,000 randomly-selected co-op members will receive a residential consumer survey form focusing on their power use patterns and the kinds of appliances they own.

The form asks questions about home appliances, heating and cooling equipment and conservation/load management equipment.

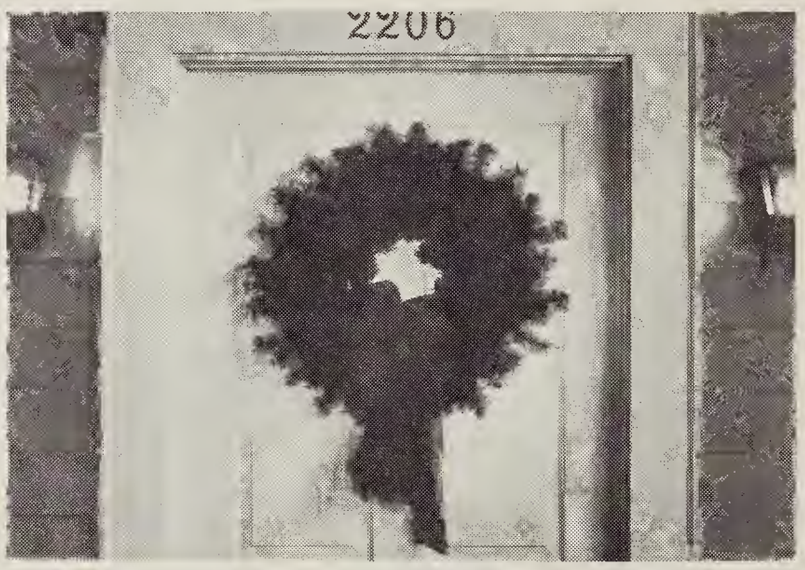
It also offers an opportunity for participants to write their own comments or suggestions about the services of their cooperative, officials said.

The survey is being coordinated by North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation (NCEMC), the power supply arm of the statewide EMC organization. However, the forms will be returned directly to the local EMCs.

"This project is an effort to give the EMCs and NCEMC an overview of current power use patterns in order to make reliable projections for our energy requirements for the next few years," said Jim Hubbard, executive vice president of the statewide EMC organization.

"This is basic information that is most important to our forecasting and planning process. That's why we hope the co-op members who receive the survey forms will take a few minutes to fill them out and return them."

Plans call for the forms to be distributed in late December.



'TIS THE SEASON TO BE CAREFUL.

'Tis the season to be jolly, true. But it's also the season to be careful.

That's why the folks at your nonprofit, member-owned EMC would like to remind you of a few seasonal safety tips. Like unplugging the lights in your windows and on your Christmas tree each time you leave your house. And making sure that electrical outlets aren't overloaded with unnecessary plugs.

From everyone at your EMC who serves you throughout the year, we wish you a joyous, safe holiday and a prosperous New Year.

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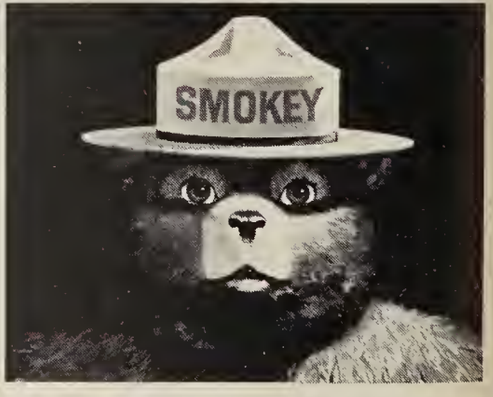

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Currier and Ives Images From Christmas In 1900

When Edith Daniels recalls Christmases Past, she can rejoice in memories that stretch back to before the turn of the century.

Those memories include many images right out of Currier and Ives: cold carriage rides to family gatherings at grandmother's house, boisterous holiday feasts, Christmas trees trimmed with homemade decorations.

Mrs. Daniels, a widow who now makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Eileen Lye, on a Wake County dairy farm, grew up in New York state between Rochester and Buffalo.

The active 98-year-old stays busy with painting, knitting and hooking rugs.

As she sorted through her many Yuletide memories, she recalled her family's Christmas celebration of the year 1900, when she was an 11-year-old girl.

Her family made the trip to her grandmother's house, using a horse-drawn carriage.

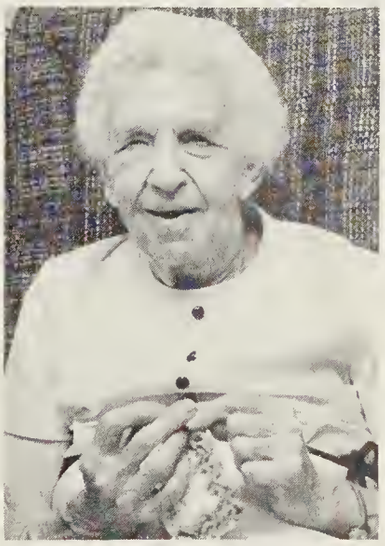
"It was mighty cold that particular day," said Mrs. Daniels. "We bundled up in the carriage with some wool blankets and a buffalo robe with the skin and fur still on it."

Traveling by carriage, the nine-mile trip took quite a while.

"It seemed awful, awful long, but it was exciting and we enjoyed it."

With five children in her own family and other cousins joining in, her grandparents' house was bustling with noise. All the children were filled with anticipation as they awaited their presents.

Mrs. Daniels said the children were banned from the front room, where the Christmas tree and presents were kept.



Christmas memories stretch back to before the turn of the century for Mrs. Edith Daniels. At 98, she makes her home with her daughter on a Wake County farm that is served by Wake Electric Membership Corporation, Wake Forest.

"They wouldn't let us children in the front room where we knew the Christmas tree and presents were," she said. "But the older folks kept going in. It was awful hard for us to stay away, but we had to."

Before the youngsters were allowed to open their presents, the Christmas meal was served.

Holiday food hasn't changed much since 1900, she said: turkey with all the trimmings, plus an assortment of desserts.

"We children had a table to ourselves. We didn't mind because we didn't want to hear the older folks talk. But the older folks were so slow in eating! It didn't take anytime for us children to eat."

When all the waiting finally ended for the children, they bolted into the front room. The room was dominated by the beautiful Christmas tree, which differed only slightly from those of today.

"We didn't have any lights because we didn't have electricity," Mrs. Daniels said. "The tree was trimmed with different colored paper chains and popcorn. Best of all it was loaded with presents."

Mrs. Daniels remembered a warm hand muffler and other presents she received that day.

Even though Christmas is still a special time of year for her, it no longer brings the joy it did when she was a youngster, she said.

Mrs. Daniels remembers ending that Christmas celebration as many children do today:

"After all that food and excitement, I think we children went sound asleep as soon as we got in our carriage to go home."

—*Randy Wheeless*

Yuletide Treats

Recipes from *Carolina Country* readers to help you celebrate the holiday season.

Chocolate-Filled Angel Torte

Submitted by Felicia R. White, Lewiston

1 pkg. chocolate pudding mix (3 oz.)
1 C. milk
1/2 C. sour cream
1 tbsp. dark rum or coconut flavored rum
1 10-inch pre-baked angel food cake
1½ C. whipping cream
2 tbsp. powdered sugar
Chocolate curls or shaved chocolate for garnish

Combine pudding mix with milk. Heat to boiling, stirring until mixture thickens. Cool slightly. Stir in sour cream and rum. Split angel food cake into 3 layers. Spread chocolate mixture between layers. Whip cream and add powdered sugar. Spread over top and sides of cake. Decorate top with chocolate shavings or curls. Serve immediately or cover and store in refrigerator up to 3 hrs. before serving.

Punch Bowl Cake

Submitted by Evelyn Beachum, Grimesland

1 (16 oz.) container whipped topping
1 (19 oz.) can cherry pie filling
1 large can fruit cocktail (drained)
1 large can crushed pineapple (drained)
4 oz. coconut
1 C. chopped pecans
1 box yellow cake mix
2 pkgs. vanilla instant pudding mix

Mix cake according to directions in two layers. Mix pudding according to directions. Slice cake into 4 layers (or break into small pieces). Put one layer in bottom of punch bowl. Layer 1/4 of each: Pudding, cherry pie filling, pineapple, fruit cocktail, coconut, nuts and 4 oz. of whipped topping. Repeat until 4th cake layer is placed on top. Add additional whipped topping to last layer and sprinkle with coconut and nuts.

Gingerbread

Submitted by Willer Myers, Denton

1/2 C. butter or shortening
1/2 C. sugar
1 egg, beaten
2½ C. sifted flour
1½ tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 tsp. ginger
1/2 tsp. salt
1 C. molasses
1 C. hot water

Cream sugar and butter. Add egg. Measure and sift dry ingredients. Mix molasses and hot water. Add dry ingredients alternately with liquid, a little at a time. Beat after each addition. Bake in greased 9 x 13 x 2 inch pan about 30 minutes in preheated 350 degrees oven. Serve with whipped cream or chilled applesauce.

Popcorn Cake

Submitted by Marcelli Cassada, Indian Trail

4 qts. popped popcorn
1 lb. miniature marshmallows
1 lb. white peanuts
1 lb. gum drops (choose your favorite color)
1/2 C. margarine
1/2 C. salad oil

Combine all ingredients (except popcorn). Stir over low heat until melted. Add popcorn. Put into a tube pan. Cool and place onto plate. (This makes a pretty cake for a Christmas party.)

Snicker Doodles

Submitted by Mrs. Kathy Beam, Statesville

1-1/3 C. self-rising flour
3/4 C. sugar
1 egg
1/2 C. Crisco
1 tsp. vanilla
3 tbsp. sugar
1 tsp. cinnamon

Mix flour, sugar, egg, vanilla. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Roll into balls the size of a walnut. Bake about 15 minutes. Roll baked cookies in mixture of sugar and cinnamon. Let cool 10 minutes.

Sugarfree Apple Spice Cake

Submitted by Mrs. James Weber, Denver

1¼ C. applesauce (unsweetened)
1/4 C. margarine or butter Crisco
1/2 tsp. apple pie spice
1 C. apples (stew until soft)
1/4 C. raisins
1 heaping C. wheat flour
1 heaping C. white flour
1/2 tsp. allspice
2 tsp. baking soda
1/2 tsp. salt
2 eggs
3/4 C. chopped nuts
3/4 C. chopped fresh apples (optional)
*1/4 C. applesauce (unsweetened)

Combine applesauce, margarine, apple pie spice, apples and raisins in small microwave bowl. Microwave 3 minutes on high. Remove and cool to room temperature. Stir flour (white and wheat), soda, allspice and salt together until well blended. Add eggs to cooled applesauce mixture. Add mixture to dry ingredients. Beat at medium speed for 2 minutes. Add nuts and fresh apples and mix only until blended. Using a lightly greased microwave bundt pan, place 1/2 the batter in pan, add *1/4 cup applesauce evenly around, place rest of batter on top. Microwave on merry-go-round at 1/2 power for 10 minutes and full power for 6 minutes. Let cool 10 minutes in pan on rack. Remove from pan.

Caramel-Pecan Pinwheels

Submitted by Tina Ward, Sugar Grove

1/3 C. caramel ice cream topping
2 tbsp. butter or margarine, melted
1/3 C. pecan halves
1 pkg. of 8 refrigerated breadsticks

In a 9 x 1½ inch round baking pan stir together ice cream topping and butter. Sprinkle with pecan halves. Separate but do not uncoil the breadsticks. Arrange coils atop caramel mixture. Bake in a 350 degree oven for 20 to 25 minutes or 'til golden brown. Let stand for 2 to 3 minutes. Loosen sides and invert rolls onto a serving plate. Serve warm. (Makes 8 servings.)

Blueberry-Apple Crisp

Submitted by Mary Ann Bell, Waxhaw

1 20 oz. can sliced apples, drained
(or use your own cooked apples)
2 C. frozen fresh blueberries
1/2 C. quick-cooking oatmeal
1/3 C. packed brown sugar
1/4 C. all-purpose flour
1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
3 tbsp. margarine or butter
Light cream (optional)

In a 1½ qt. microwave safe casserole combine the apples and the blueberries. Micro-cook covered at full power for 5 minutes, stirring fruit twice. In medium mixing bowl stir together the oats, brown sugar, flour, cinnamon and nutmeg. Cut in the margarine until the mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Sprinkle the crumb mixture over the apples and blueberries. Cook uncovered on high for 4 to 5 minutes or until fruit mixture is heated through. Serve with cream. (Makes 6 servings)

Cookie Sheet Cake

Submitted by Christe Blevins, Lansing

2 sticks margarine
4 eggs
1½ C. sugar
2 C. flour
1 tsp. vanilla
prepared pie filling
(blueberry, strawberry, pineapple, apple, cherry)

Beat margarine, eggs and sugar. Add flour and vanilla. Grease and flour large cookie sheet. Spread batter on cookie sheet. Mark squares with knife 2″ x 2″. Put spoonful of pie filling in each square. Sift powdered sugar over top. Bake at 350 degrees for 35 minutes. Cool. Cut into square. (Makes 30-35 cakes.)

White Fudge

Submitted by Mrs. Shirley B. Watson, Fleetwood

5½ C. white sugar
2 sticks margarine
1 (12 oz.) can evaporated milk
13 oz. marshmallow cream
1 lb. white chocolate (cut up or softened in microwave)
1 tsp. vanilla
2 C. nuts (or desired amount)

Boil sugar, margarine and milk over med-high heat about 12 minutes, *stirring constantly*. Remove from heat and add marshmallow cream, white chocolate, vanilla and nuts. Beat hard and pour into greased pan 9″ x 13″. *Note:* for a more firm fudge, add a little more than 1 lb. of white chocolate.

Easy Coconut Crisps

Submitted by Deana Huneycutt, Oakboro

6 slices white bread, crust removed
1 can sweetened condensed milk
2-2/3 C. coconut

Cut bread slices into 4 strips. Brush both sides with condensed milk. Roll in coconut. Place on greased baking sheet. Bake at 375 degrees for 8 to 10 minutes. Yield: 2 dozen.

Angel Sweets

Submitted by Mary Sue Stell, Wake Forest

1 (6 oz.) pkg. chocolate chips
1 C. sifted powdered sugar
2 C. miniature marshmallows
2 tbsp. margarine
1 egg
1 C. chopped pecans
1/2 C. flaked coconut

Melt chocolate and butter over low heat. Remove from heat. Blend in egg. Stir in powdered sugar, nuts and marshmallows. Blend well. Shape in 1 inch balls, roll in coconut. Freeze or refrigerate. (Makes about 3½ dozen.)

Christmas Pound Cake

Submitted by Elizabeth Baity, Yadkinville

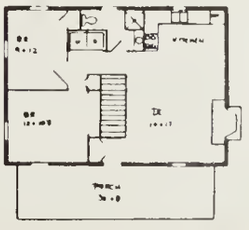
CAKE RECIPE:
1 C. butter or margarine
1-2/3 C. sugar
5 eggs
1 lb. chopped pecans
1 lb. candied mixed fruit
1 (4 oz.) can moist coconut
2 C. sifted plain flour

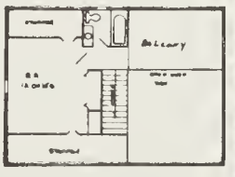
GLAZE RECIPE:
2 C. brown sugar
1 C. orange juice

Cream butter and sugar until creamy. Add eggs one at a time, beating well after each. Coat nuts, fruit and coconut with small portion of flour. Stir remaining flour into creamed mixture. Add nuts, fruit and coconut. Mix well. Pour into well-greased and floured tube pan. Bake in 250 degree oven for 3½ hours. Pour glaze over hot cake. Let cool in pan overnight. Remove and wrap in foil. Cake is better after it has aged 2 or 3 weeks.

Glaze: Mix and heat 2 cups brown sugar with 1 cup orange juice.

COMPARE





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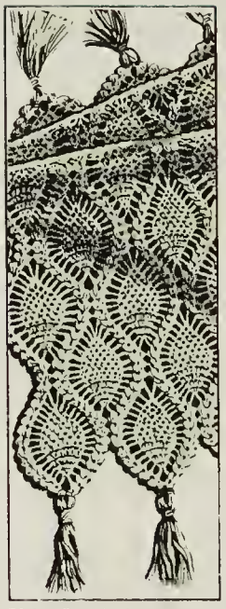
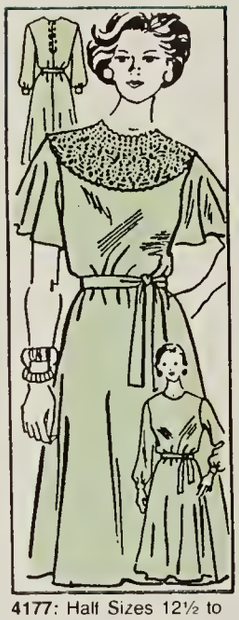
PINS · N · NEEDLES

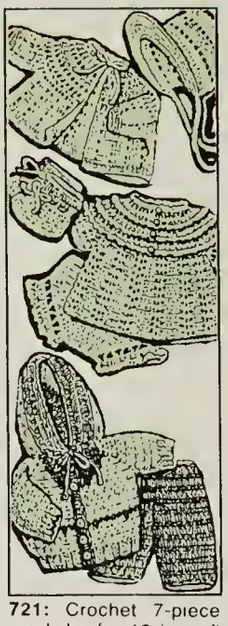
4209: Misses Sizes S (8-10), M (12-14), L (16-18) included. Tunic top with long sleeves and elastic waist skirt in Size L, 3⅝ yds. 60-in.



551—Crochet a cozy pineapple afghan of one color worsted weight yarn. Finish with tassels. Simple directions — afghan 54x72".



4177: Half Sizes 12½ to 24½. Pattern for easy-sew dress includes instructions for crochet collar. Size 14½ dress: 2⅜ yards of 60-in. fabric.



721: Crochet 7-piece wardrobe for 18 in. soft sculpture baby doll of baby yarn, wool blend. Easy directions for clothing pictured.

4190: Misses Sizes 8 to 22 included. Wear as 3-piece suit or separates. Size 12-14: jacket, 2⅜ yds. 60-in. fabric; skirt, 1 yd.; pants, 1⅜ yds.

7007—Sew a soft sculpture "girl" bear. She is about 18" tall. Tissue pattern pieces to sew bear and clothes are included.

Send $3.25 for each pattern to: *Carolina Country*, Reader Mail, Dept. 8681; Box 58, Woodside, N.Y. 11377. Add 75¢ each for postage and handling. Be sure to use your full address, zip code and include pattern number and size.

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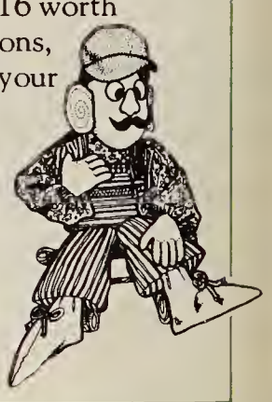

DO YOUR OWN THING

Country French Tableau

There is a reason why the French are famous for their food: they take dining seriously! Now you can do some serious dining in the French tradition with the help of this 10-page guidebook's step-by-step instructions, full-size pull-out patterns and country French tableau recipes.

Making a special meal involves more than just food, it requires the proper atmosphere. Using the guidebook's directions, you can make French berryvine placemats and napkins and a country French apron. The table settings are not hard to sew, simply cut out some soft fabrics according to the pattern, layer the fabric with polyester-fleece filler and add ruffles.

With the decorations ready to go, it's time for some serious cooking!

The guidebook provides recipes for a very special dinner including *Blancs de Poulet a la Creme avec Champigons, Petits Pois a la Francaise* and *Mousse au Chocolat Blanc aux Fraises.* (Don't be put off — it's chicken in cream with mushrooms, French peas and chocolate mousse!) A luncheon recipe of Mushroom Tartlets, Nicosie salad and hot raspberry souffle is also included.

To obtain COUNTRY FRENCH TABLEAU, #GP23, send $7.25, including postage and prompt handling. Send your check to **Lois Goodson, c/o *Carolina Country*, P.O. Box 2383, Van Nuys, CA 91409-2383.**

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To obtain TRESTLE TABLE, Pattern #614, send $4.50; TRESTLE BENCH, Pattern #615, is also $4.50. An alternate-style dining table is our ROUND OAK TABLE, Pattern #722, $4.50. All prices include postage and handling.

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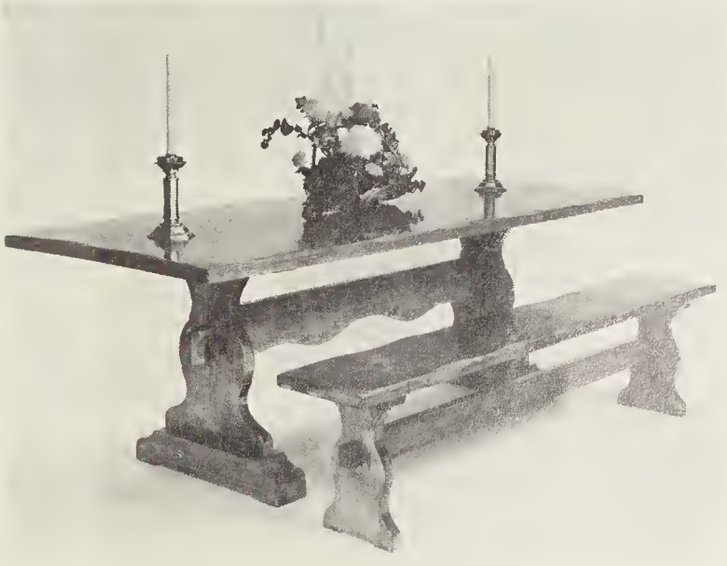

Program Set To Teach Energy Issues Through The Performing Arts

A program designed to educate young people about energy conservation through performing arts has been announced by the N.C. Alternative Energy Corporation and the N.C. Agricultural Extension Service.

In the program called PEP (Performing Energy Program), a mime mascot helps youngsters discover sources and uses of energy.

Two Play-Writing Contests will launch the program — one for students in grades one through seven and another for grades seven through 12, according to Mark Dearmon, media specialist in the Department of Agricultural Communications at North Carolina State University.

Awards for the contests range up to $400 cash for students in grades one through seven and scholarships valued up to $1,000 for students in grades seven through 12.

The deadline for entering the contests is Dec. 31.

Dearmon says youth leaders and teachers are being encouraged to help the younger students by providing opportunities for class projects. Writers should use drama, music and/or dance to tell life experiences dealing with energy creation, conservation and the future of energy.

A two-day workshop will be held during the spring to provide classroom teachers, extension agents and other youth leaders with resources to incorporate energy education and the performing arts into small-scale settings. Workshop topics will include directing/producing, music, dance and set and costume design. Professional performing artists and technicians will provide instruction.

Teachers and youth leaders who participate in the workshop may apply for mini-grants worth $100 to $250 to help fund energy programs in their communities, Dearmon said.

Patricia Gee, program manager at the N.C. Alternative Energy Corporation, said "PEP offers an innovative means of delivering energy education to North Carolinians."

The Alternative Energy Corporation provided funds in 1986 for the Extension service to conduct an energy program through its 4-H Performing Arts Troupe.

AEC is the nation's only cooperative joint venture in energy involving government, public and private power organizations. The corporation seeks to encourage more efficient use of energy and reduce the need for new power plants.

"PEP is based on the fundamental educational principle of learning by doing. The program involves youth and adults, educators and artists, volunteers and community leaders, all working together to develop and market an energy conservation message," said Dr. Martha Johnson, assistant extension director and state home economics leader.

Extension produced "Poor Richard's Energy Extravaganza," an original, four-act musical explaining the creation, history, conservation and future of energy. The extravaganza was performed for some 4,500 North Carolinians and proved to be a successful use of theatre as an energy education tool.

Dan Mason, a former theatre director/actor, is serving as PEP manager. He has served six years as the 4-H troupe's music and artistic director and has been involved in the visiting artist program with the Department of Community Colleges and the North Carolina Arts Council.

To enter the Play-Writing Contests or for more information about the PEP program, write or call Dearmon or Mason. Write to them at Box 7603, N.C. State University, Raleigh, NC 27695-7603. Phone: (919) 737-2861.

Co-ops Played A Vital Role In Rural America's Growth

Rural electric cooperatives have played a vital role in the development of rural America, Lt. Gov. Robert Jordan said, as he addressed the 50th Anniversary annual meeting of Pitt and Greene Electric Membership Corporation, Farmville.

"Rural America would not be what it is today without the Electric Membership Corporations," he said. "We're not talking about people working together just to bring electricity, but also helping each other make life a little bit better."

Jordan was the featured speaker at the meeting in Farmville's Worthington Warehouse, which attracted about 2,500 participants.

The event was part of the co-op's celebration this year marking its organization in 1937.

Jordan said North Carolina's rural roots have helped to shape the growth the state has experienced over the years.

"Despite what you read about the unparalleled growth in parts of urban North Carolina, this state is what it is today because of rural North Carolina," he said.

Jordan, who serves as chairman of the North Carolina Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution, compared the beginning of Pitt and Greene EMC to the development of the Constitution 200 years ago.

"As I've had a chance to read about the history of this organization, I saw where another group of individuals stepped forward in the late 1930s to bring lights to the countryside."

Other state officials who attended the meeting included Secretary of Agriculture James Graham and Labor Commissioner John Brooks.

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From Extension Specialist

Tips For Cutting Energy Use

Although heating and cooling units use the lion's share of energy in the average home, the watts used by appliances that heat and cool can also add up. To help conserve energy and keep electric bills low, Dr. Nadine Tope, extension foods and nutrition specialist at North Carolina State University, suggests the following:

- Check the door gaskets on your refrigerator and freezer. If the gasket doesn't fit tightly, you're wasting energy.
- Don't let frost build up in the freezer.
- Keep the condenser coils on the back or bottom of your refrigerator clean by dusting or vacuuming them.
- If you are in the market for a new freezer, remember that cold air won't escape as easily from a chest freezer as it will from an upright freezer.
- Open the refrigerator door only as often and as briefly as necessary.
- Use a written list to keep track of the contents of a freezer. This will cut down on the amount of time that is spent standing there with the door open.
- Match your pots and pans to the size of your burners. A pot that's too small for the burner allows extra heat to escape.
- Pre-heat the oven only when it's necessary.
- Cook several things in your oven at the same time.
- Put lids on your pots and pans to keep the heat from escaping.
- Use the minimum amount of water when cooking so that the dish will heat quickly.
- Don't run the dishwasher for a partial load.

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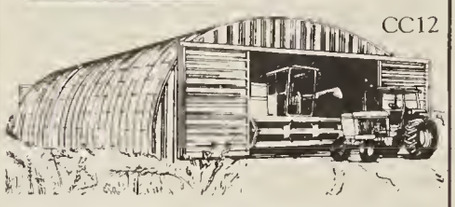

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Major Transmission Project Upgrades Service For The Members of Blue Ridge EMC

One of the largest service improvement projects ever in North Carolina's rural electric program has just been completed in an area of Wilkes and Ashe Counties that is served by Blue Ridge Electric Membership Corporation, Lenoir.

The project involved building an 18.5-mile transmission line that carries 230,000 volts—or 230 kilovolts (kV)—of electricity.

The new line went into operation in mid-November.

Blue Ridge EMC officials say the new line will help the co-op provide more reliable service for its 37,000 consumer-members in seven counties.

It'll be especially helpful in meeting the members' need for power as the area grows in the years ahead, according to Paul Ekman, manager of planning and construction at Blue Ridge EMC.

He said the $8 million project will save the co-op money over the long term through reduced "line loss" resulting from the new line's greater efficiency.

Engineering studies show that the EMC will save about $1 million in energy costs during the first year the line is in operation.

Maggie Gidney/Blue Ridge EMC, Lenoir

Blue Ridge EMC's dual 230-KV transmission lines as they appear from Meditation Mountain directly above the co-op's Horse Gap substation in Ashe County.

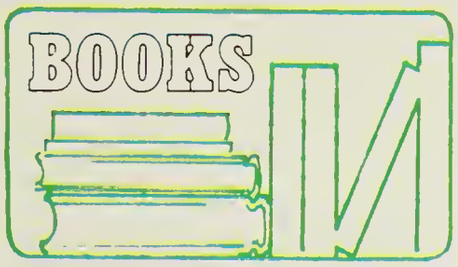
The line was built alongside another 230-kV transmission line that was erected in the early 1970s.

Ekman pointed out that the two lines operate as separate circuits, which means that if either one of them should be out of service, the other could continue to deliver power. The lines run from a point about two miles northeast of North Wilkesboro in Wilkes County to the EMC's Horse Gap substation near West Jefferson.

The tandem transmission lines are a unique operation within the state's rural electric co-op program, said George Ferrell, director of planning and engineering at North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation (NCEMC).

"A few of the EMCs across the state have 230-kV delivery points where electricity flows into their systems, but none are distributing it at that voltage. To put it into perspective, a typical power line in a co-op residential area would carry between 7.2 and 23 kilovolts."

NCEMC is a generation and transmission cooperative that's part of North Carolina's statewide EMC organization.



Tending To Virginia, by Jill McCorkle, Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, 312 pages, $15.95.

Jill McCorkle's first two novels, *The Cheer Leader* and *July 7th*, won acclaim for the Lumberton native who lived in Chapel Hill and taught writing in the UNC-CH English Department until her recent marriage and move to Boston.

McCorkle's third novel, *Tending To Virginia* is a touching, powerful tale of three generations of women in one family, with a small North Carolina town as the setting.

Virginia, or Ginny Sue, as she is known to her N.C. relatives, is having doubts about moving North (to Richmond) with her lawyer husband. She is 28, eight months pregnant and uncertain of her status as Mark's wife. Does he still love his first wife?

More than anything, Virginia is homesick.

On a visit "home," Virginia becomes ill with toxemia, forcing her to stay (her secret desire all along) and be tended by the women of her family.

There is her beloved Gram Emily and her great-aunt Lena, both old now, with minds that drift in and out of the past and present. Her mother Hannah is there, along with Madge, Hannah's cousin, and Madge's daughter Cindy, who is the black sheep of the family, having been married and divorced twice. Cindy's sharp tongue causes them all to wince.

All of these women know each other inside out, or think they do, until the day a bad storm confines them in Gram Emily's small duplex.

Memories and revelations start pouring out like rain, making them all take a second look at each other and themselves.

In *Tending To Virginia*, one of the characters calls looking another character in the eye "like having to look at God; it's like that woman can see to your bone."

This is how I view Jill McCorkle. She sees to the bone. Her characters are so vivid and real, you almost expect them to rise up and walk.

Tending To Virginia is a wonderful book, bursting with life. Jill McCorkle has the art of storytelling down pat. Her dialogue is perfection and she holds the reader spellbound with her vision and originality.

—© 1987 Mary Davenport

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Agriculture Department Program's Enrollment Total: 71

The "Goodness Grows in North Carolina" promotion program has added 21 new participants since May.

"We're at 71 and still counting."

That's how Teresa Hamby of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture described the current status of the agency's "Goodness Grows in North Carolina" program, which is now well into its second year of operation.

The 71 refers to the number of firms that are now participating in the effort.

The program was launched in 1986 as a special way of promoting the quality and variety of food produced in North Carolina.

Mrs. Hamby has coordinated the program since its inception within the NCDA Marketing Division.

"We're quite pleased with our enrollment progress so far," she said. "And we believe consumers are coming to recognize our 'Goodness Grows' label as a mark of quality when they're buying food."

Under the program, a participant may use the label only for its top line of products. And each vendor must show that at least 51 percent of their ingredients originate in the state. There is no charge to enroll.

The newest participants in the program include two nationally-known firms: Charles F. Cates and Sons of Faison, who market Cates Pickles and House-Autry Mills of Newton Grove, who serve a large region with House-Autry corn meal products.

Two of the latest enrollees have moved the NCDA promotion into a new area—aquaculture. That involves growing seafood in freshwater ponds. Albemarle Crawfish Farms of Windsor markets Cajun Crawfish while Trenton Aquaculture of New Bern markets Louisiana Red Crayfish. (The seafood involved is the same with either spelling.)

In addition, catfish has now been added to the "Goodness Grows" list of enrolled products as Mid-Atlantic Fish Farms of Greenville joins the program.

Other new "Goodness Grows" seafood producers who specialize in more traditional fare are St. Elmo's Crab Company of Wanchese, which markets both crab cakes and claw meat; Honeysuckle Seafood Kitchen of Coinjock, which produces crab "fingers" and varied crabmeat hors d'oeuvres; Mattamuskeet Seafood of Swan Quarter, which sells select crabmeat and Channelnet Corporation of Morehead City, which sells frozen shrimp.

The new cooperators include four firms that sell top-quality Irish potatoes—something North Carolina has produced since the days of the early colonists, who took this completely American product back to Great Britain.

James Brothers of Elizabeth City and F.P. Wood and Sons of Elizabeth City both sell white potatoes. John E. Ferebee Farming Inc. of Camden and Ferebee and Son of Shawboro sell both Irish potatoes and broccoli, a crop that's gaining attention in North Carolina.

Wayne E. Bailey Produce of Chadbourn provide a tasty alternative—sweet potatoes.

Meanwhile, McInnis Farms of Candor, in the Sandhills, sells four kinds of squash (yellow, butternut, acorn and spaghetti squash) as well as pickling cucumbers, cherry tomatoes, eggplant, beets and radishes. Sunny Slope Greenhouses of Bear Creek produces tomatoes and cucumbers.

Langhorne Pick-Your-Own of Gibsonville offers asparagus, blueberries, blackberries and raspberries in season. Hilltop Farms and Greenery of Sparta specializes in Bibb lettuce, while H. L. Sanderson Farms of Wallace markets collards "and other greens," blueberries, squash, zucchini, okra, broccoli, sweet corn, cucumbers and bell peppers.

Hancock's Old Fashion Country Ham of Franklinville produces the product in its name while Millis and Lee Enterprises of Cary and Jim Lee of Raleigh will help you spice your dinner with Puro Fuego and Picante Sauce. Hickory Mountain Farms of Siler City also produces country-cured ham.

The roll of new participants includes a variety of other producers: P.K. Foods, Inc. of Advance sells eggs—chopped eggs, "perfect eggs," select grade and salad grade eggs. Harvest Time Foods of Greenville markets dumplings. Anderson-Talbert Peanut Co. of Tarboro sells peanuts, and if you want popcorn to go along with them, Carolina's Best Popcorn of Clinton can help.

Davis Milling of Deep Run, near Kinston, grinds out corn meal while Atkinson Milling of Selma produces both meal and hush puppy mix.

Honey is marketed by Ellis Apiary in Durham.

Brookwood Farms produces barbecued pork, barbecued beef, barbecued ribs and a high grade chili.

The Carolina Nut Cracker of Mt. Olive has both shelled pecans and cracked pecans.

For information about enrolling in the program, write or call Mrs. Hamby at Goodness Grows in North Carolina, Division of Marketing, N.C. Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 27647, Raleigh, NC 27611. Phone: (919) 733-7912.

Wilmington Product

BBQ Sauce Warms South Pole Crew

Things are warming up at the South Pole these days, courtesy of Carolina Treet Barbecue Sauce.

Even though it's minus 95 degrees outside, with a wind chill reading of minus 127 degrees, the crew at the Edmunson-Scott South Pole Station in Antarctica gets warmed up with Carolina Treet on their chicken and ribs.

Chef Peter F. Vossenburg dropped a note to Joe King, president of Carolina Treet in Wilmington, to compliment him on the sauce and make plans to obtain additional sauce on the next supply run.

"Just thought you would like to know that your BBQ sauce made it all the way to the bottom of the world!" Vossenburg wrote.

"My brother sent it to me when we had our only mail drop in June and . . . everyone enjoyed your BBQ sauce very much."

Vossenburg is the cook for a crew of 17 at the Antarctic Station, where a period of total darkness that began in March recently ended in early September.

King said Vossenburg will be offered additional supplies of the sauce to help keep everyone warm at the South Pole Station.

Carolina Treet Barbecue Sauce is a member of the NCDA's "Goodness Grows in North Carolina" market promotional program.

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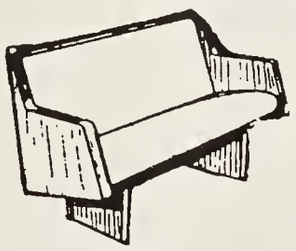

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HANK'S GARDENING GUIDE

Outdoor gardening activities to keep gardeners busy this month include planting balled-and-burlapped and bare root trees and shrubs. Planting deciduous plants early in the dormant season helps to assure better growth next spring.

Christmas Poinsettias

When selecting a poinsettia, consider the maturity of the plant. Look for yellow pollen on the true flowers which are at the base of the colorful bracts (leaves of red, white or pink that surround the small flowers). If flowers are green or red-tipped and fresh looking, the bloom will "hold" longer than if the yellow pollen is covering the bloom. An older flower will have pollen that is powdery.

Florists and garden centers generally offer poinsettias for sale when pollen is just showing around the edges of the flowers.

Poinsettias respond better if placed in a sunny location. Avoid spots that have a fluctuation in temperatures and locations that are in a draft. Placing the poinsettia near an outside door is not good. Locate the plant away from vents, radiators or air registers. Take care that plant does not touch a cold window. If possible, move plant to a cooler room at night as most room temperatures that are comfortable for us are not proper for the poinsettia. Don't place plant on a television set; the extra warmth could be too much.

Watering

You'll want to check evergreens now to be sure they are not suffering from lack of moisture in the soil.

Flowering camellias need plenty of water; otherwise, flower buds may fall before they open. Broadleaf evergreens subjected to blowing winds will lose considerable moisture through their foliage. This moisture must be replaced by the root system from water within the soil. If soil is dry, let water run slowly until the area around the root zone is thoroughly moistened.

When watering house plants, you'll want to use water at room temperature. Cold water from the tap may "shock" plants. Here's a tip: fill the watering can after each use. It will be at room temperature when it's time to water again.

Insects

Winter-strength dormant oil may be used to spray all deciduous trees and shrubs. One application should kill overwintering insects that may be infesting your plants.

Although dormant spraying may be delayed until later, weather conditions are often more agreeable for the task to be done this month.

Mulching

Check your shrubs to see that mulches are still holding up—the worst of winter is yet to come. If you use a loose material such as the popular pine straw, replenish mulch to a depth of four inches.

Mulches help to conserve moisture within the root-zone of plants. This is especially important for plants that suffer from loss of moisture as a result of winter winds blowing through the foliage.

Pruning Pyracantha

When purchased, most pyracanthas have a tall main stem. In order to induce branching at the base of the plant, cut this main stem back to one-half its height. After new growth is eight to ten inches long, cut out the tips of each shoot. This causes further branching. Such training by pruning will cause the plants to grow into a compact, base-branching plant.

Tips For Preparing Roses For Winter

Rose gardens in mountainous areas should be prepared to resist damages of severe cold. Most winter injury to roses comes from alternate freezing and thawing of the soil. The application of heavy mulch around plants will prevent soil from freezing too deeply. Mulch also serves as an insulator to keep soil temperatures more nearly constant.

Mulch should be applied after the soil is in delayed damage—if mulch prevents soil from freezing, roses may sprout too early in the spring before danger of late frost has passed.

A heavy mulch is not necessary at lower altitudes unless severe freezes are forecast.

If you already maintain a summer mulch, simply add to it after the ground begins to freeze. A six-to-eight inch winter mulch usually is sufficient. Ideal mulch materials are those that do not pack down tightly: clean straw, wood chips, pine needles, ground corncobs, dry peat moss.

Another alternative would be to establish a mound of soil about eight to ten inches deep over the base of rose bushes. Soil should be brought in for mounding, not hoed up between bushes. This approach provides protection that's comparable to that of mulching, but takes more time and effort.

In the spring, remove the heavy mulch or mounded soil.

Pyracanthas tend to produce long, tall stems. This type growth can be checked easily by pinching or cutting away the tips during the growing season. This will cause compact growth without the loss of berries.

Over-sized plants can be rejuvenated by cutting back all stems to within one foot above ground level. Do this anytime before growth resumes in the spring. However, such severe pruning results in loss of berries for one year.

It is advisable to give pyracanthas a light pruning each year.

Potting Soil for House Plants

A complete soil mix is not needed in growing house plants. On the other hand, just plain garden soil is not enough. A suitable mixture includes equal parts of a good garden soil, peat moss and sand or perlite. Such a mixture will be excellent for most house plants. Keep some of this mixture handy during the winter for future potting or repotting.

Transplanting Shrubs

If you're moving old established plants, be sure to prune away one-third of the branches in order to compensate for unavoidable root loss. Always cut back to a growth bud (in the angle of stem and leaf). Make a sloping cut just above a bud.

It is advisable to tip-prune balled-and-burlapped shrubs (shrubs whose roots and soil are wrapped in burlap). Pruning away some top-growth at the time of planting helps offset shock to the root system.

Dig planting hole about twice the size of the root system. Loosen soil in bottom of hole. Prepare soil by adding a bit of well-decayed barnyard manure. Set plant at level it was growing while applying water to the planting hole. If plant is bareroot, spread out roots as you fill with soil. Apply plenty of water to drive out air pockets.

—Hank Smith

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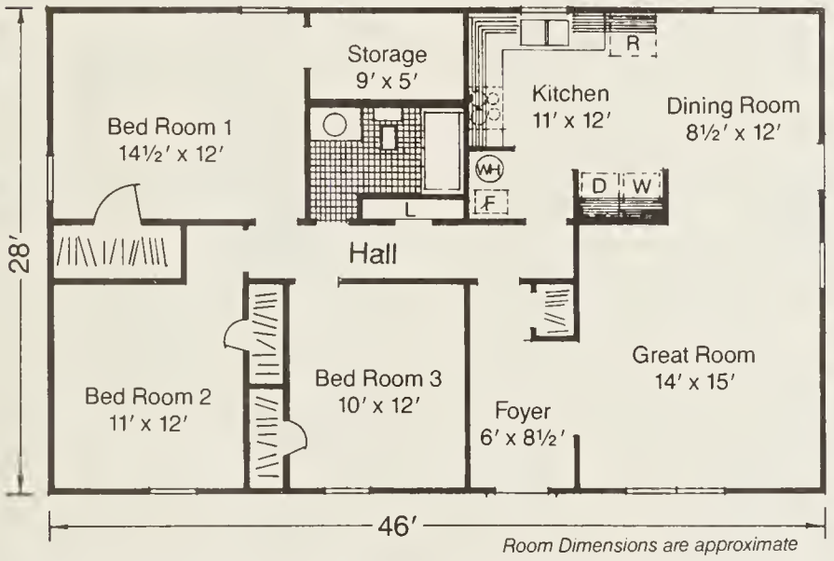

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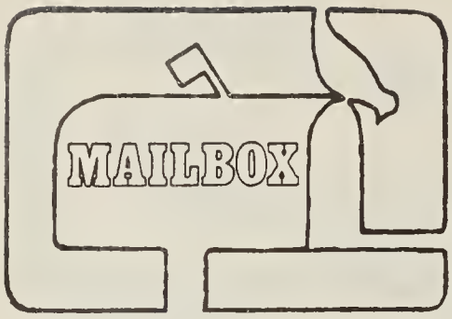

Letter of "Outrage" Draws A Response

I do not understand the "outrage" my previous letter (August "Mailbox") evoked from Ms. Frazier (September "Mailbox").

I am unable to determine her point and why she chose the particular scripture she quoted. It seems contradictory to quote scripture to support one's sense of outrage. "Outrage" means "anger and resentment aroused by injury or insult." What sensibility did my opinion injure or insult in Ms. Frazier?

The New Testament is rich with the teachings of Christ. However, man in his limited capacity can never hope to comprehend the infinite wisdom of God. Man can only devote himself, in *absolute humility*, to the study and search for God's truth. Only God knows if a man is truly righteous. It is not man's place to judge: judgment is left to God.

I am not certain what Ms. Frazier means when she tells me to "get real."

Perhaps the response to her is to quote another scripture: St. Luke 18:9-14, in which Jesus ". . . spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:

"10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee and the other a publican.

"11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers or even as this publican.

"12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

"13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

"14 I tell you, this man (the publican) went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted."

Ron Ennis
Morganton

Vocational Rehabilitation Serves Those With "Unseen Handicaps"

I thought your readers might be interested to know that Vocational Rehabilitation services are for those persons with unseen handicaps as well as those who have obvious handicaps. Individuals with tuberculosis, arthritis, epilepsy, heart disease, mental retardation, deafness, emotional illness, paralysis, visual defects and many other handicaps can be served.

Behavioral disorders, including those affecting juvenile offenders, may also be served by Vocational Rehabilitation.

Handicaps may be those caused by accidents or disease or may be the result of a birth defect. Very few handicaps prevent a person from being trained for a suitable job.

A handicapped person may apply for services from Vocational Rehabilitation . . . by contacting the nearest Vocational Rehabilitation office.

After application, the rehabilitation counselor makes a thorough study to determine eligibility for services. If the person is found eligible, guidance and planning begin, an appropriate job objective is agreed upon, and plans are made for services that will assist the individual in reaching that objective.

Services of this agency are provided on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, creed or national origin.

Ability counts. Employ the handicapped!

Lastelles Paul Fleming
Rt. 1, Cleveland

Seeking Recipes For Peach or Apple Kuchen

My husband and I greatly enjoy your monthly magazine. I especially appreciate "Hank's Gardening Guide." Since we moved from New Jersey, gardening here is a bit different than it was there.

I wonder if any of your readers could supply me with a recipe for "Peach (or apple) Kuchen?" This is a recipe that my mother-in-law (from Germany) used to make. It is, as I recall, a yeast dough coffeecake which is good with any kind of fruit topping.

Since my mother-in-law died, I have not been able to find a suitable recipe for it, and my husband would be delighted if I could. Thank you for any help you may be able to give me.

Jane Hahn
6116 Castleton Court
New Bern, NC 28560

Raising Ginseng: "Not A Get-Rich-Quick Scheme"

For the past several weeks I have been receiving mail regularly from folks interested in growing ginseng, and I believe *Carolina Country* is the cause of my bulging mail box. On page 28 of your October issue, Frank Jeter Jr. reviews my book, *American Ginseng: Green Gold.*

I was unfamiliar with your magazine and certainly had not submitted the book for review, but apparently Mr. Jeter knew what would be of interest to your readers. His synopsis of the book is completely accurate, but he does fail to make one point that I stress in the book.

While it is true that a successful grower can harvest between $10,000 and $50,000 on only a half-acre plot of ginseng, it is also true that a great deal of hard hand labor is required over a five- or six-year period to be successful. In other words, *it is not a get-rich-quick scheme*, as some of my new pen pals seem to believe.

I appreciate the book sales that the review has generated, and I do think ginseng has great potential as a small-scale cash crop in North Carolina, but the only people who should consider growing it are those with a willingness to bend their backs and grub in the dirt, perspire and persevere when the pay-off is years in the future.

W. Scott Persons
Tuckasegee

Agribusiness And The Environment: A Dialogue

The simple definition of agribusiness given by Edmund Aycock in the September issue (page 12) is a narrow and extreme point of view used to justify opposition to legislation to protect our environment. It is important to recognize that fishermen also put food on the table, and their livelihood is being treated by the nutrient load in the estuaries, caused in part by farm runoff.

Some groups are "on the other side of the fence" as Mr. Aycock has charged, and it is important for both sides of an issue to be aired.

Hopefully, the readers of *Carolina Country* will judge the merits of the position of the Agribusiness Council for themselves, and the Council itself will take a more enlightened, all-encompassing view of their mission.

The American Way is to seek a middle ground, and the views in this article show a disregard for the environment, which is of fundamental importance for all life.

Robert N. Saveland
New Bern

Edmund Aycock, executive vice president of the North Carolina Agribusiness Council, has responded to Robert N. Saveland as follows:

Members of the Agribusiness Council strongly support efforts to preserve and improve the environment. There is complete understanding of the importance of water and its protection. It is well known that soil must be used and handled in such a manner that it will not be depleted. Only by doing this can food and fiber, necessary for all of us, be produced.

In the Congress and in the North Carolina General Assembly there are constant and continuing bills introduced that deal with environmental matters. Many of these are quite positive and helpful—many of them are extreme. We do believe that those detrimental to the process of producing food and fiber deserve to be criticized.

We realize these are judgment calls and, quoting from your letter, "The American Way is to seek a middle ground." This is exactly the position the Council and its membership attempt to take.

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For The Record: Essay On Sandbox Wisdom Penned By A Retired Minister

When we reprinted the piece, "All I Ever Really Needed To Know I Learned In Kindergarten," in September, I had never seen it before it appeared in a newsletter from the South Dakota Rural Electric Association.

Since then, I've learned that it has been quoted in speeches and reprinted in newspapers and other publications across the country. *Reader's Digest* published it. Paul Harvey read it on his radio show. And Dear Abby included part of it in her syndicated column. All that made me curious about the man who wrote it.

We credited it to dear old "anonymous" because that's the way it came to us. *Reader's Digest* said it was written by Robert Fulghum, but gave no information about him.

A letter from one of our readers provided some background.

Billy R. Peterson, representing Red Hill Universalist Church, Rt. 4, Clinton, wrote to say: "That wonderful item was written by Robert Fulghum, minister emeritus of the Edmonds, WA, Unitarian Church, and has been widely circulated through the churches and fellowships of the Unitarian Universalist Association. It also appeared in the August, 1987, issue of *The Tar Heel Universalist*, official publication of the Universalist Convention of North Carolina, Inc."

Meanwhile, a columnist I read regularly also had an attack of curiosity on this same subject—and was able to track down Fulghum to get more details about him and the essay.

A.C. Snow of *The Raleigh Times* discovered that Fulghum is a 50-year-old native of West Texas who had been an art teacher before entering the ministry.

He told Snow that about three years ago he decided to write a statement of his personal beliefs, confining it to a single page.

He said, "Sometime later I read the piece during a speech at an early childhood education conference. Several people, including a visiting senator, asked for copies. The senator took it to Washington where it was read at a prayer breakfast attended by Sen. Robert Dole, who in turn carried it back to his home state of Kansas."

As the piece was making its rounds, a kindergarten teacher in Connecticut sent it home with her students, one of whom happened to be the child of a New York literary agent, Snow reported.

"The agent tracked Fulghum down on his floating houseboat at Seattle," the columnist wrote.

"Since then, he has had offers of publication from six major publishing houses. 'All I Ever Really Needed To Know I Learned in Kindergarten' is the title piece of a collection of Fulghum's manuscripts scheduled for publication next September. And he has already signed a contract for a second book. . . ."

"God's Gift"

If you haven't read the story about Mrs. Edith Daniels on page 13, make a point of doing so during this holiday season. She tells some fascinating stories about the Christmas celebrations she remembers from around the turn of the century.

The 98-year-old Mrs. Daniels says the traditional holiday festivities really haven't changed very much since she was a girl.

Most of us do cling to Christmas traditions year after year, perhaps to remind ourselves that the reason for the celebration never changes — no matter how much our world may change from one Yule to the next.

That's the theme of the following verse/essay by Jean Day of Newport, who sent it to us a couple of years ago. She titled it, "God's Gift."

I remember those childhood years
with sleds and snow, Christmas
lights and the story of the Wise
Men and the Baby Jesus.
I remember lonesome years made
more poignant by the constant
rendition of "White Christmas."
I remember those wonderful
sharing years when the boys
were small and a little cash had
to go a long way — the Christ-
mas story with my sons playing
the parts of the Wise Men.
I remember their early grown-up
years with one away here — or
there; two married, two
grandsons.
I remember the divorce. Christmas
was different, yet the story was
the same. A new grandchild — a
girl to buy a laughing doll for.
I remember the one I love who is
gone, never to return. Yet he left
behind a son. So the family goes
on: another child to love and to
tell the story of Jesus.
Life is full of changes, but
Christmas is not. That's the
wonder of God's gift to man. It
is the same now as always.

Recipe Footnote

The Christmas Candy recipe from Carol Bessent Hayman of Beaufort that appeared in our November column called for two 12-ounce packages of "caramel chips." That puzzled many of our readers, who called or wrote to ask what they are.

Mrs. Hayman said she uses Nestle's Toll House Butterscotch Morsels, which are available in most grocery stores.

—Owen Bishop

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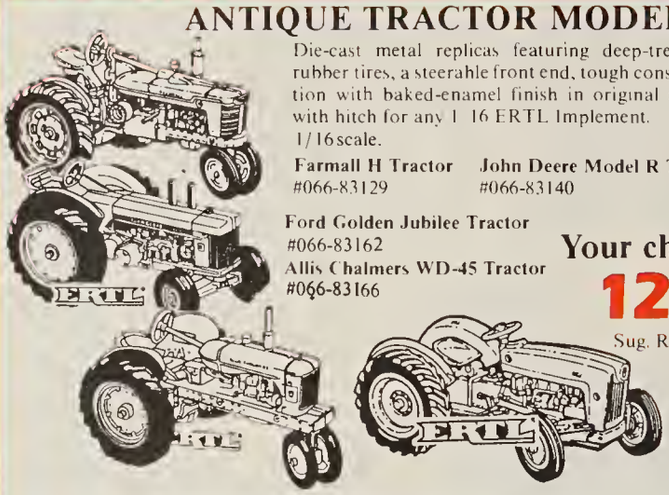

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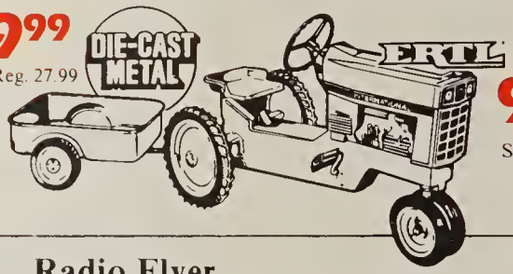

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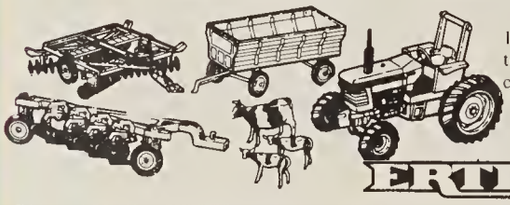

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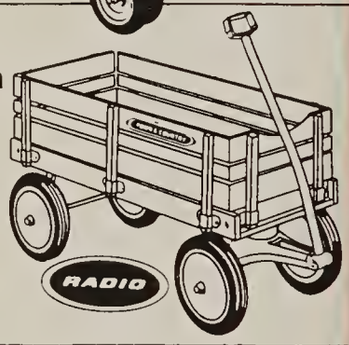

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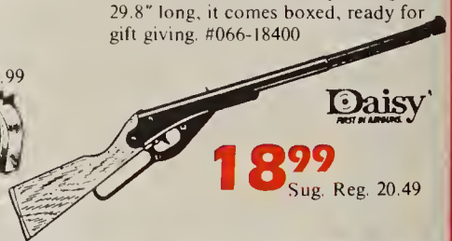

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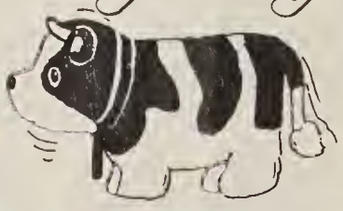

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